GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:108
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2016
Polluted River Stretches
Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that besides river Ganga, 254 other polluted river stretches too require attention towards cleaning, if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has found that the number of such stretches have increased to 302 in 2015 from 150 in 2009, if so, the facts thereof;
(c) whether her Ministry has studied the observations of CPCB and if so, the outcome thereof;
(d) whether as many as 532 towns/cities fall along the polluted stretches of different rivers across the country and the Municipal Corporations are not able to treat increased load of sewage flowing into the water bodies; and
(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)
(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.108to be answered on Thursday, the 3rdMarch, 2016 on "Polluted River Stretches"raised by SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV: SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE
(a)& (b) Yes, Madam. The Government is aware that there are several other river stretches other than river Ganga. In fact, based on the water quality assessment conducted Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), CPCB had identified 150 river stretches as polluted on 121 rivers in the country during 2008. During 2015, the status was re-assessed and 302 river stretches identified as polluted on 275 rivers in the country including river Ganga; and communicated to State Pollution Control Boards for preparing action plan for restoration of these river stretches.
(c) to (e) Yes, Madam. The Government has studied the CPCB report.The Government has formulated river action plans to restore water quality of rivers through the Ministry for Water Resources for river Ganga and its tributaries, and through the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for all other rivers. The river action plans have been taken up on rivers through State Governments to intercept, divert and treatment of municipal wastewater from urban centers which is not been able to adequately handle the complete sewage treatment.
There are 650 towns along the 302 polluted river stretches identified on 275 rivers. Out of 46 metropolitan cities (Census 2011), 35 cities are located along the polluted river stretches.
The state-wise number of towns/cities in descending order are − Maharashtra (161), Assam (49), West Bengal (46), Gujarat (38), Madhya Pradesh (37), Uttar Pradesh (37), Karnataka (24), Kerala (22), Tamil Nadu (23), Odisha (20), Rajasthan (20), Jammu & Kashmir (18), Manipur (17), Telangana (18), Jharkhand (16), Himachal Pradesh (14), Chhattisgarh (12), Meghalaya (12), Sikkim (11), Goa (9), Andhra Pradesh (8), Bihar (8), Haryana (7), Uttarakhand (6), Nagaland (4), Tripura (4), Punjab (5), Daman & Diu (2), Delhi (1).
Out of 46 metropolitan cities (Census 2011), 35 cities (Vijayawada, Patna, Raipur, Delhi, Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara, Srinagar, Dhanbad, Ranchi, Bangalore, Indore, Bhopal, Jabalpur, Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Thane, Pimpri-Chinchwad, Nashik, Kalyan-Dombivali, Vasai-Virar, Ludhiana, Kota, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Kanpur, Ghaziabad, Agra, Meerut, Varanasi, Allahabad, Kolkata, Howrah, Faridabad) are identified along the polluted river stretches.
CPCB estimated the sewage generation in Class I & Class-II towns during 2008 and assessed that there was a gap of 27000 MLD between the sewage. The sewage generated and treated and sewage generation is linked to the population growth especially in urban centers. There was a GAP of around 27000 MLD. The updated information on the sewage generation and treatment capacity developed indicates a GAP in treatment of about 38000 MLD during 2015 due to inadequate facility for sewage treatment.
In the 11 Ganga Basin States, the Consortium of IITs have estimated that 12050 mld of sewage is generated from Class-I &II towns. 7301 mld is generated from the 175 Class I and 102 Class II towns of 5 Ganga basin states on the main stem of river Ganga namely, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. The available treatment capacity is about 2125 mld. In addition, STPs for a treatment capacity of about 1188 mld are under construction / approval, thus leaving a gap of about 3988 mld in this 5 basin states.
Under NGRBA till December 2015, 34 nos. of STPs in Ganga and 03 nos. of STP in Yamuna of total capacity 808.23 MLD have been sanctioned.
CPCB has given directions to Municipal authorities/corporations under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for treatment and utilization of sewage for restoration of water quality of rivers.
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